

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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DTSC Certifies Former Pacific Gas and Electric Company Site

Berkeley - - The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced certification of the hazardous substances cleanup at the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Former Station H site located at 1134 Miller Avenue in Oakland.

DTSC's certification means that all environmental clean up activities required by the cleanup plan approved in August 2003 are complete. The site is now suitable for unrestricted land use and development.

"We are pleased that clean up activities at this urban brownfield site are complete and this area can now be put back into productive use," said DTSC Director Ed Lowry.

The PG&E, Former Station H site is one of many brownfield sites throughout California where DTSC has supervised the investigation and cleanup, and certified the property for reuse. Brownfield sites are agricultural, industrial, or abandoned properties that are contaminated or thought to be contaminated, and may be underutilized due to environmental cleanup costs or liability concerns.

PG&E operated the Former Substation H from approximately 1911 through 1978. The site is approximately one-half acre and has been vacant since 1998. PG&E operations at the site contaminated the soil with arsenic, cadmium, and lead.

During clean up activities, approximately 500 cubic yards of soil were excavated and disposed offsite at an appropriately permitted facility. Excavated areas were backfilled with clean soils to meet unrestricted use standards.

PG&E currently plans to sell the property to a private developer.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.